

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The obviousness-type double patenting rejection of Claims 3, 5, 11-15 and 21-27 over Claims 1-18 of U.S. 6,534,176 in view of Terase et al and Zdanowski et al is obviated by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

Since Claims 3, 5, 8, 10 and 23-27 were not rejected over other prior art of record, these claims should be allowable.

In addition, Claim 11 has been rewritten to define the structure of the scaly particles. Since the Examiner had indicated that such amendment would put Claim 11 in condition for allowance, Claims 11 and dependent Claims 14, 16, 19, 21 and 23-30 should be allowable as well.

The rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph is moot in view of the amendment of Claim 14.

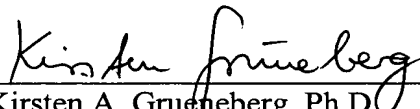
Application No. 09/939,804
Reply to Office Action of March 9, 2004

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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